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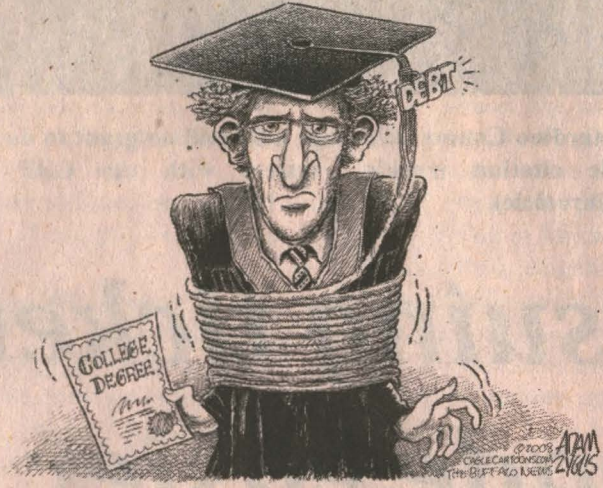
# The Coyote Chronicle

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE MEDIA ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNER

Serving the CSUSB campus for 42 years

Monday December 8, 2008

Vol. 42 Issue 8



More and more students are graduating with debt (Courtesy of [www.caglecartoons.com](http://www.caglecartoons.com)).

## New deal for education calls for investment

Lauren Padia  
Copy Editor/Staff Writer

When faced with the options of competing in a limited job market, or further burying themselves under mountains of student loans, many are opting for mountains of debt.

In fact, there has been a 21 percent increase in applicants to the CSU system for Fall 2009 since October. Unfortunately for applicants, the California and federal governments have recently cut funds to public higher education.

As a result, the California Faculty Association (CFA) has proposed a "New Deal for the New Millennium", which calls upon the federal government to invest more money into public universities. The CFA's proposed program requests \$70 billion from the federal government to invest into higher education throughout the country.

This may sound like a large amount of government funds, but the CFA notes that it's a mere 10 percent of the Wall Street and bank bailout amount.

If passed, the request would nearly double the current amount of state funding for higher education.

The money would fund grants for college students, provide loan forgiveness to graduates who go into public service and increase the amount of funds allocated for student aid.

The deal would also call on Gov. Schwarzenegger to restore the funds from the \$215 million budget cut from 2008.

"We can't afford to block students from getting an education because they can't afford to pay," the CFA said.

When student enrollment goes down it has a direct impact on the economy, since college graduates become more productive and return money back to the government through taxes.

On average, \$4.41 is returned back to the state economy for every \$1 invested in the CSU.

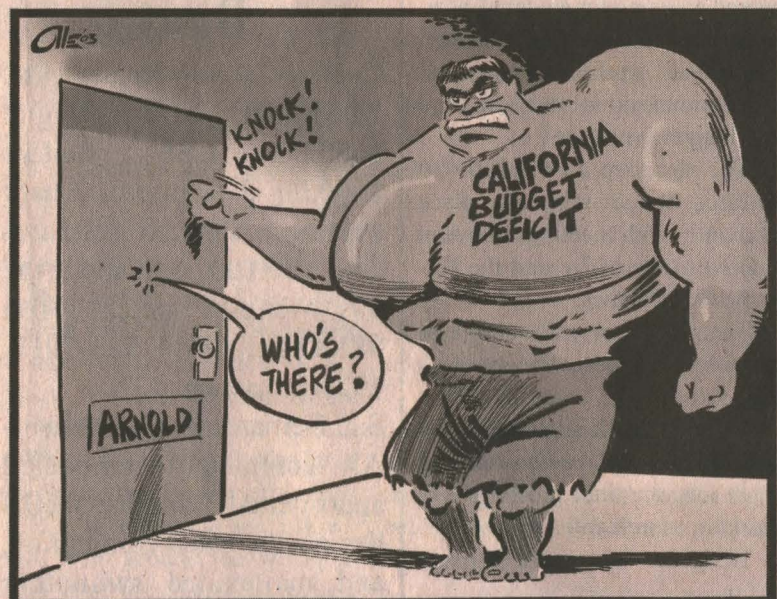
"The CSU contributes \$7 billion to California's economy - revenue we cannot afford to part with given the deep deficit we already face," according to a CFA media release.

**"The CSU contributes \$7 billion to CA's economy..."**

retraining and more people rely on public universities. We need to invest in public higher education today so that we don't need to rescue millions of young people in the future," the CFA said.

More than 10,000 qualified applicants have been denied admission to the CSU system next year.

One of the goals of the "New Deal" would be to allow those applicants into the system, because "New graduates and unemployed adults alike need opportunity to become tax paying participants in California," according to the CFA.



New Deal seeks to help deficit (Courtesy of [www.caglecartoons.com](http://www.caglecartoons.com)).

## Despite cuts, no new fees

Student fees will not increase in 2009-10 school year

Michael Iannolo  
Staff Writer

Student fees will not be raised in the 2009-10 school year, according to the CSU Board of Trustees' requested budget.

However, the budget is still subject to revisions by the CSU, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the state legislature.

If the current budget is passed by the state, full-time students will continue to pay the current \$3,849 annual university and campus fee.

"The 2009-10 CSU budget request reinstates California's education priorities under the Higher Education Compact," CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed said. "(This will) ensure student access to CSU campuses, address compensation issues, increase student financial aid and fund CSU mandatory costs."

The Higher Education Compact was a deal struck between Reed, UC President Robert C. Dynes and Schwarzenegger at the peak of a 2004 budget crisis that promised steady funding increases to CSUs and UCs through 2010.

The compact promises that student fee increases will not be higher than 10 percent per year and that

the budget may use money from the general fund to alleviate fee increases.

No such buyout was mandated for the 2008-09 school year.

In all, the requested budget is \$5.1 billion - a 14 percent increase from last year, according to CSU officials.

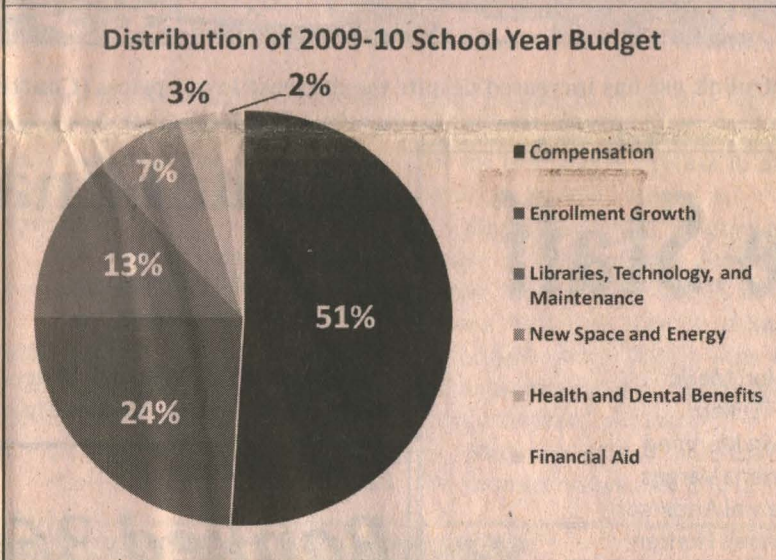
The budget includes \$3.5 billion from the State General Fund and \$1.6 billion from student fee revenue.

The proposed total increase in funds is \$611.4 million for the

CSU. That figure includes \$341.2 million to fully fund the CSU under the Higher Education Compact, \$116.7 million to raise salary levels for faculty and staff, and \$153 million to cover additional high-priority needs, according to CSU officials.

Two budget support documents released by the CSU in November called the budget proposal "an essential opportunity for investment in California's economy. Investment in the CSU is an investment in the future."

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Final budget allocation is expected to take place in June 2009 (Michael Iannolo/Chronicle).

## High-crime city shadows campus

Campus crime rate doesn't emulate city's crime rate

Greg McKinley  
Staff Writer

San Bernardino ranked 36th highest for crime in the nation, according to 2007 crime data crunched by an independent publisher.

The ratings were compiled by CQ Press using FBI figures on six crimes - murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. Its calculations were released in November 2008.

Larry Gaines, chairman of the Criminal Justice Department at CSUSB, questions the effect the crime rate in San Bernardino will have on students at CSUSB.

"If you look at where CSUSB is situated, we're really not in town, we are outside of town. For the most part we are outside of the city," Gaines said.

The effect high crime in the city of San Bernardino has on students may also be low since many students do not live in the high crime areas.

"How many students actually live in the high crime areas? I would question whether that's very large," Gaines said. "I would say most students live fairly close to campus or at home, so they're not going to be living, commuting or recreating in those high crime areas."

So, I really question whether it would have much of an impact on students."

Even for students who live in high crime areas, the effect of San Bernardino's crime may not affect them.

"If you were to interview people in high crime areas, they're going to think their areas are safe, because even though there's a lot of crime it's still a fairly low rate of occurrence," Gaines said.

According to Gaines, many of the crimes of theft and assault in-

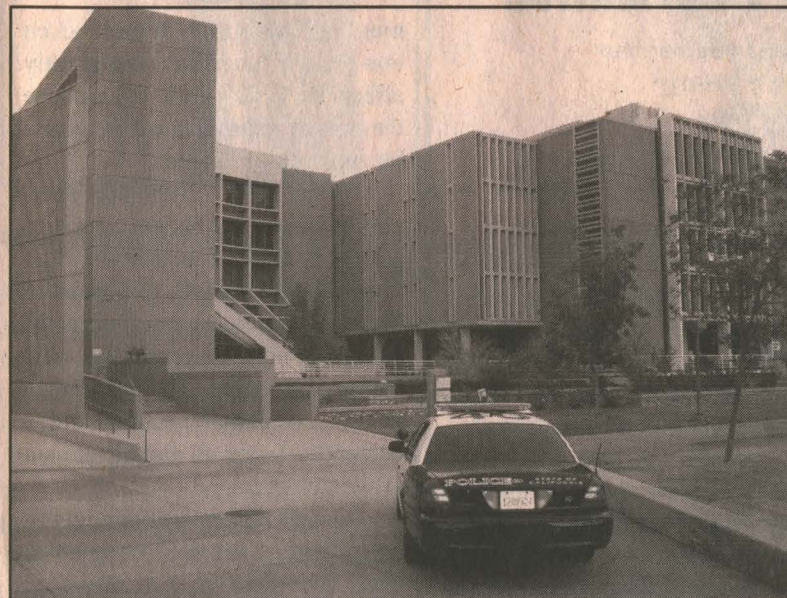
volve people that the victim knew.

Gaines is skeptical that the crime in the city will spill over onto the campus.

"The question to think about is how much students have that is worth stealing. There are better targets," Gaines said. "I think the campus is relatively safe. It's safer than a lot of other campuses."

While San Bernardino ranked high in crime, the CSUSB campus has a lower crime rate than many other colleges, according to infor-

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San Bernardino ranked 36th highest in the nation's crime rate according to the CQ Press and FBI stats (Greg McKinley/Chronicle).

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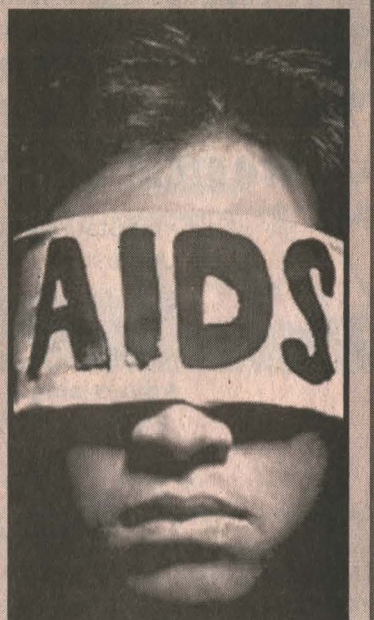
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# Decreasing gas prices are not hurting public transportation

*San Bernardino/Los Angeles metro line use is up 17 percent*

Garret Tedesco  
Staff Writer

As we watch the price of gas fall, we also see an increase in the use of public transportation.

Although gas is below \$2 per gallon, many look for relief from the tumbling economy through public transportation.

In the past year, Metrolink, Foothill Transit and Omnitrans have seen a ridership boom as gas prices raced toward \$5 a gallon, according to the San Bernardino Sun.

"Even now that the price has dropped, many people have discovered they would rather take the bus or train than hit the road on their own," Foothill Transit spokeswoman Felicia Friesema told the Sun.

"They formed a habit in June when gas was close to \$5 a gallon," Friesema added.

More than 1.44 million people chose the bus, which is an increase of about 5 percent over last year, Friesema said.

Overall, ridership is up 8 percent over last year.

On the San Bernardino to Los Angeles line, Metrolink reported a 17 percent increase on average daily ridership from July through September, according to Metrolink.

For the approximate 60 mile journey from San Bernardino to Los Angeles it would cost an aver-

age of \$62 by car, according to Metrolink.

The same trip would cost \$20 on a weekday and \$15 on the weekend for a Metrolink user.

Ridership at local transit agencies is not only up, it is staying strong according to Marie Montgomery, a spokeswoman for the Automobile Club of Southern California.

Although the gas prices have

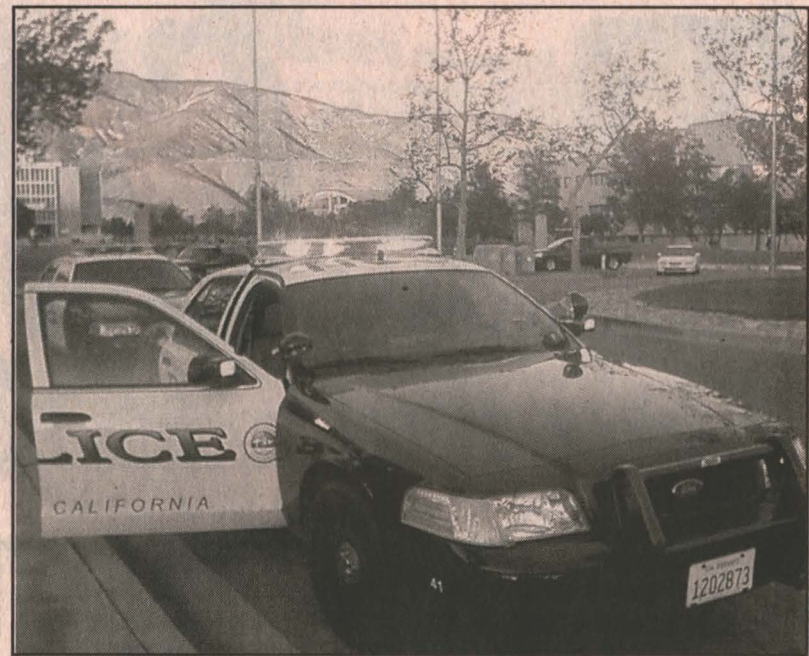
fallen drastically, the high price of gas over the summer months bloated family budgets, which public transit is working to lessen.

"You add up the gas bills over the year and even if it drops to \$1 a gallon by the end of the year, you've probably paid more for gas this year than any other year," Montgomery said in a Daily Bulletin article.

Public transit saves money along with the environment.

CSUSB students have a chance to reduce their carbon footprint by participating in the various public transit options.

Metrolink and its passengers save 22 million gallons of oil per year, reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 178 metric tons per year and remove about 25,000 cars per day from Southern California highways and freeways, according to Metrolink.



San Bernardino County will share a \$1 million grant to develop an electronic citation tracking system with the CHP (Albert Sabaté/Chronicle).

## Issuing tickets made easier

Albert Sabaté  
Staff Writer

A new pilot program for traffic citations may make wishing your ticket was lost in the mail, just that: a wish.

San Bernardino County will share in a \$1 million grant to develop an electronic citation tracking system with the California Highway Patrol (CHP).

Some students don't see incorporating technology into citations and traffic as a completely good thing.

"In a way, it's good. But I think they should spend more time and resources to get people who do serious crimes," Yesenia Bautista, a sophomore said.

The California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, has awarded the grant to the Administrative Office of the Courts' Information Services Division.

San Bernardino's Superior Court will share the three-year grant with Orange and San Diego counties.

"This will save tremendous amounts of time and energy," Tressa Kentner, court executive officer at the San Bernardino Superior Court said.

"We process 300,000 tickets a year (from the CHP and other police agencies). Currently, the officer takes your ticket, the physical paper, to the Superior Court, which in turn sends it to a contractor in Sacramento to be read and input manually and then sent back to the Superior Court," Kentner added.

Proposals are being accepted for the eCitation Pilot Program and the specific technology to be used by CHP officers.

"You can imagine the mistakes (misspelled names, etc.) that can be made with the current system," Kentner said.

"In the new system, an officer could just swipe a driver's license and have all the information instantly and (accurately)," Kentner added.

Bautista, who has received three traffic-related citations said that she is frustrated "...extremely, beyond words," by her experiences with citation structure and police.

She said getting photographed at photo enforced intersections "...got me traumatized, and I'm afraid whenever I pass the same place. It can cause more problems, more accidents."

In regards to the intersection in which she got a photo-citation, Bautista said that her fear can create more dangerous situations. "Once, I stopped even though it was green," Bautista said.

"Another thing," noted Bautista, "tickets get more expensive." She suggested fees are so high to support the increased costs of using specialized technology in the citation process.

"I feel like cops spot for little things, (to) charge more money because of all these new programs," Bautista said.

On the other hand, Bautista said she saw how eCitations could improve the citation process.

"Once a cop parked behind me in a parking lot and I couldn't back out. I asked him if he could move, but he replied he was busy finishing writing a ticket. I waited for 20 minutes," exclaimed Bautista.

"There's good and bad," she said.

It is unclear how the program will be funded after the three-year grant ends.

**"This will save tremendous amounts of time..."**

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## Disclaimer

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The Chronicle reserves the right to edit or reject all editorials submitted to the paper.

## Annual financial audit

Helga Kray  
Interim Executive Director of  
SMSU Board of Directors

The audited financial statements for the Santos Manuel Student Union for 2007-08 are available for review at the Main Desk in the Santos Manuel Student Union, the Pfau Library and the office of the Associated Students, Inc.

Continued:

## Ranked 36th in crime

mation available through the Jeanne Clery Act.

The Clery Act is a law requiring all colleges that participate in financial aid programs to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses.

Crime information about CSUSB, and other campuses, is available online.

The act is named after 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Ann Clery, who was raped and murdered while asleep in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986.

"Some of the other campuses are right in the middle of the city and in some cases located within high crime areas," Gaines said.

Most of the crimes committed by students on campus are not premeditated.

"A student walks by and sees something they can steal and they steal it, sees something in a car they want so they break into the car and steal it," Gaines said.

Gaines also questioned the usefulness of ranking cities at all.

"A lot of times you can take plus or minus five crimes and you may have a number of cities within that range, so ranking doesn't tell you a lot about a crime problem. What you have to do is look at what the crime rates are, where the crimes are located and try to determine what impact it has on society," Gaines said.

Continued:

## Budget allocation announced

ment in California's future...even one year of underfunding greatly affects the CSU's ability to produce the type of return that can be possible when fully funded."

Of the \$341.2 million for operational costs, the budget specifies that 24 percent of the funds will go to enrollment growth, 13 percent to libraries, technology and deferred maintenance; 7 percent to new space and energy, 3 percent to health and dental benefits and 2 percent to financial aid enrollment growth revenue.

The 51 percent remaining will go to faculty and staff compensation, according to the proposed budget.

Of the \$173.3 million compensation total, 55 percent will be put

into a compensation pool to be split among all CSU employees, while the remaining 45 percent will be used to increase the salaries of specific low-income positions.

The budget also requests additional funding for new initiatives to address pressing state needs, according to CSU officials.

These initiatives include clinical nursing and algebra readiness programs, more special education teachers, more tenure-track faculty, timely student graduation, orientation and advising for students, agriculture and biotechnology research, an additional 1 percent faculty and staff compensation increase and more language classes.

The next step for the 2009-10 requested budget will take place this month, with meetings between the Governor's office and the Department of Finance.

The Governor will submit an agreed upon budget to the state legislature in Jan.

In Feb. the Legislative Analyst's office will review it, the budget subcommittee meetings will be held in March and April.

Budget revisions will be made in May.

The final budget adoption should take place in June.

**The requested budget is \$1.5 billion.**

## CLASSIFIEDS Apartments for Rent

Cooper Canyon Apartments. 1 bedroom, 1 bath starting at \$680.00. CSU student \$600.00; 2 bedroom, 2 bath starting at \$880.00, CSU student \$800.00. Ask about the \$99 Move-In special (909) 881-0814, (951) 323-5017. 1525 E. Lynwood Dr. San Bernardino, CA 92404. All completely remodeled apartments! Laundry facilities onsite, gated community, and maintained swimming pool. Locally owned by CSUSB Alumni.



## Students prepare for job crisis

Karina Amador  
Staff Writer

The Career Development Center offers tools to students who want to prepare for the job market in time of economic trouble.

According to [career.csusb.edu](http://career.csusb.edu), some of the services offered at the career center assist with resumes, career counseling, information on career expos, tips for successful interviewing and information on career fairs.

The Career Development Center is located in University Hall, room 329, and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

We help students go through a psychological transition from feeling like a freshman,"

Dr. Pamela Abell, career counselor and employer relations coordinator said.

"Students only know the cam-

pus and don't know about all the other resources available to them. We help them with their professional growing up," Abell said.

"We help them prepare for an entry level manager position versus and entry level clerical position."

Another service provided by the Career Center is mock interviews, which are only available by appointment, according to Abell.

Abell states that she plays the recruiter and asks powerful questions related to the field the student is interviewing for.

The interview lasts 30 minutes and the student needs to dress to impress as they would in a real interview.

After the mock interview is done, Abell states that she and the student go over the video and talk about what they did right and wrong, and how it can be improved.

The whole session lasts two hours and the student has to pay \$2

for the video.

"There's a churning economy; on one side things may be down, but on the others things may be up," Abell said.

"Students have no idea what comes up. The news doesn't talk about other job opportunities that are out there."

There are three different kinds of jobs offered on [career.csusb.edu](http://career.csusb.edu), according to Abell. There are campus jobs, local jobs, and national jobs.

National job listing gives listing of jobs in cities where students would like to work.

Students need to sign up at [career.csusb.edu](http://career.csusb.edu) to access the job search engine.

All student information is kept confidential and they can access the site 24/7.

Job listings are for students, and according to [career.csusb.edu](http://career.csusb.edu), CSUSB alumni may access all Ca-

reer Development Center services free for one year after you graduate.

Alumni may also have access to career fairs, career counseling, mock interview sessions and other services provided by the Career Development Center.

"Students usually come in with resume questions and help with cover letters," Maria Cuniato, a senior, and student assistant at the Career Development Center, said.

"I'm glad the school can help us find a job that specifically fits our needs," Daria Alessandro, a CSUSB junior, said.

"It makes it easier because it's right on campus."

Sandy Coronado, senior student assistant at the Career Development Center says that they help students with specific questions.

Any questions they may have, they help them get to know the different tools offered, which the career counseling provides.



Pamela Abell helps student, Angela Ramirez with career counseling (Karina/Chronicle).

## Tis the season to celebrate with toys

Mariclea Amiguel  
Staff Writer

They have made one trip and now they plan to make another one. The Faculty Student Mentoring Program (FSMP) will deliver toys for children of poor families in Mecca, Calif.

The drive to the city of Mecca took an hour or more, and yet it was well worth it. On Nov. 22 a group of about 30 people gathered outside of the Student Union ready to help out delivering food and clothing to several families in the city of Mecca.

The plan was to deliver these goods before the Thanksgiving celebration to several families in need.

Lavinia Williams, administrative support coordinator from FSMP, gave her reactions.

"It was awesome, and it was overwhelming because we complain about what we don't have. Not only that, but "we complain

about our water and yet their water is so bad that they have to boil it," Williams said.

Each box in the FSMP student lounge had been labeled with the name of a college. Every year there is a competition for the college who manages to bring the most clothes. They get "bragging rights" for the rest of the academic year.

The goal was to defeat former winner; the College of Business and Public Administration.

This year, the department held the honor for a second consecutive year.

The FSMP office had been accumulating clothes since the beginning of September.

Besides FSMP, other organizations that cooperated in the efforts were: the Student Leadership and Development Office, the Arts and Letters Department, Latino Business Student Association, and other organizations on campus.

Dr. Coorea, FSMP coordinator, said that only six things were requested: beans, rice, salt, sugar, oil, and flour. This, according to Correa, is a Thanksgiving banquet for these families.

Many families were enthusiastic to receive their bags of food and clothing.

For the month of December, FSMP is holding its "Mecca Toy

Drive," it will take place until Dec. 19.

This will be the second time this year that FSMP will go to Mecca to deliver goods to those who are less fortunate. This time, FSMP is requesting two items: toys and clothing.

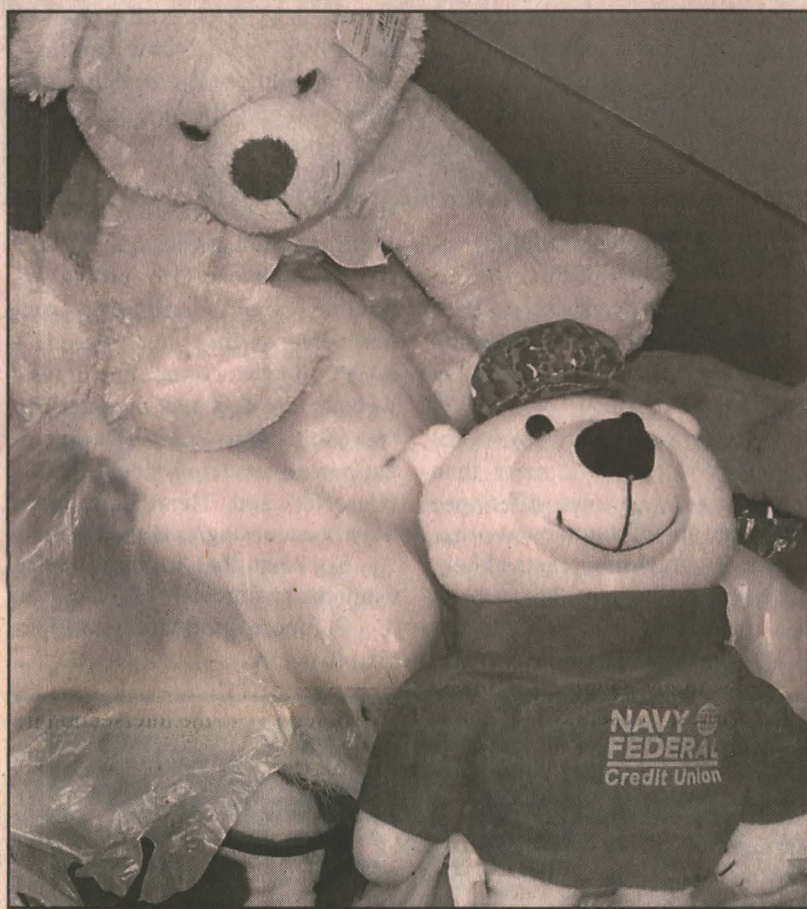
Dr. Correa stated that the goal is for every child to have a toy for Christmas. Most of the families are not able to afford critical necessities, such as food, much less a Christmas toy for their children.

Though it would be preferred that the toys be new, any toys can be brought in to the office.

The toys do not need to be expensive; a simple toy is sufficient.

Furthermore, this brings about the opportunity to empty out your closet and bring happiness to a kid.

Anyone interested in cooperating with the project can drop by the FSMP office located in PL 208, as well as the SLD office in the second floor of the Student Union.



FSMP organizes a teddy bear toy drive for the children of poor families in Mecca (Maricela/Chronicle).

## Students have an instinct for fashion

Justin Delos Reyes  
Sports Editor

Over 50 inspired writers, photographers, graphic designers and models waited to hear how their student lives could be changed over the next few weeks.

"Instinct Magazine," a newly established on-campus fashion magazine, held an informational meeting on Dec. 4, to look for students who were interested in feature article writing, photography, fashion styling and modeling.

"Instinct" Editor-In-Chief Melanie Hunter created the idea of having an on-campus fashion magazine.

Hunter wanted the magazine to identify with CSUSB's diverse campus in addition to the school's

cultural demographics. Her executive publisher, Shantal Anderson, who loves to work with graphic designing and photo editing, supports and works with Hunter closely to help with the publishing of the magazine.

The chain of command extends to Jasmine Zephyer, the executive of marketing and promotions for the magazine.

Zephyer will oversee all advertising for the magazine and will monitor the fashion clothing and accessories provided by outside sponsors.

Antinisha Harris, Public Relations officer, handles all publicity of the magazine reaching to the students while publicizing for INSTINCT magazine events.

Greedley Harris, the magazine advisor who also works in

Housing and Residential as an Area Coordinator, supports the magazine 100 percent. He was very excited when asked to be an advisor for the magazine.

"I support these girls and their ambitions for the magazine."

"I support these girls and their ambitions for the magazine. I look forward to seeing the final product," Harris said. "I know it will be great."

An on-campus club has also been created to support the new magazine.

This gives students the opportunity to join the club if they're interested in participating in the

production of photoshoots and events, or interested in being a fashion consultant, where students have the chance to suggest the season's fashion trends.

Anderson is the president of the 50-member club, the vice-president is Zephyer and the treasurer is Sara O'Connor. The club meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Hunter and Anderson want to make the magazine open to students who were looking for a way to get involved through writing, photography, graphics or modeling from a media perspective.

The first issue of the magazine will be distributed in the winter quarter around February. Hunter is the editor of the Arts and Entertainment page of the Coyote Chronicle and Anderson is the Chronicle's Campus News editor.



Instinct magazine officers encourage students to get involved (Viet/Chronicle).

## Holiday dinner and music for students and staff

Breshone Christmas  
Staff Writer

Going home for Christmas may not be in everyone's winter break plans so the Santos Manuel Student Union Program Board brought Christmas dinner to the students and alumni of CSUSB early.

With Finals next week and the Winter/Holiday break ahead, students needed a load off and free food was the perfect stress reliever. Event Scheduling hosted "Holiday Dinner" in the SMSU Thursday Night at 5 p.m.

The line of students waiting to enter stretched a long ways across the SMSU lobby at 4:30 p.m.

Snowflakes and snowmen

filled the room as the first 200 students waltzed in the event center for free as promised by the Holiday Dinner advertisement.

Tables and chairs were filled and dinner was served buffet style. Baked turkey.

Mashed potatoes and gravy, caesar salad, and the all-time favorite holiday desserts, pumpkin, sweet potato and apple pies were provided.

"I had a magnificent time, the apple pie was amazing, it was just like mom's. The set up is great, I know the event schedulers personally and I know that they worked really hard for this to be a success, and it is," Marla Dixon said.

After dinner the hosts lead their dinner guests in a game of hol-

iday bingo.

There were prizes provided for every winner and the games were played by tables so that the students could interact with each other.

With all seats filled and all students getting involved in the activities the event continued with more prize giveaways and entertainment.

"The food, the entertainment and the activities were great. This event was a great opportunity for students and staff to enjoy each other's company," Amber Hernandez of Event Scheduling said.

For the night's entertainment, the students and staff were serenaded by the band, "Rhythm of Life," made up of various campus employees, and vocalist Sera-Lynn Walde, daughter of Event schedul-

ing's Tricia Walde.

"I appreciate how hard they have worked, the event was a success," Tricia Walde said.

"They should have more events like this. Anything that I can do to support the student body I will do."

Angela Gallegos of Event Scheduling was happy to be able to help out.

"There were people that came up to me and said thank you and that they appreciate this event," Gallegos said.

"A lot of them were saying that they were not going to be able to have a big holiday dinner because of the economy."

The SMSU Program Board will continue their events next year.

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Coyote Radio can also be heard Tuesday thru Friday from 9am-Noon on San Bernardino TV channel 3



## Fake abortion clinics exposed

Brianna Goldberg  
Staff Writer

Watching anti-abortion videos, being forced to pray with staff and being followed home are some of the experiences many women across the United States have undergone when seeking an abortion through their campus

health center, according to fwhc.org.

These places are called crisis pregnancy centers (CPC), or pregnancy resource centers, and they masquerade as women's health clinics that often lure young women by offering free pregnancy tests, according to Nikki Border of the Feminist Majority Foundation (FMF) in Beverly Hills.

Border represents the pro-choice viewpoint.

Recently there has been a rise in the amount of health centers on four-year campuses across the nation that are referring women to these anti-abortion centers instead of actual abortion clinics, Border said.

A current study conducted by the FMF shows that 48 percent of

responding university health centers are referring students to crisis pregnancy centers.

The sample size of 398 responding health centers reaches a student body population of 3,783,041, or 34 percent of the total student body population in the country attending four-year schools.

According to the CSUSB Student Health Center, all student referrals for abortions are to Planned Parenthood, which is not associated with any CPCs.

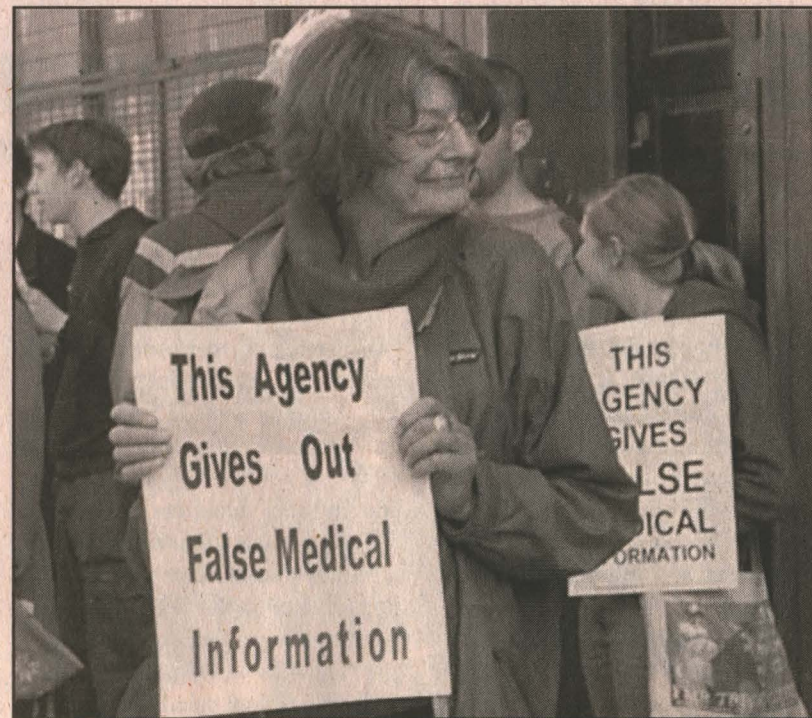
"CPCs often mask their mission with tactics such as advertising under 'abortion services' in the Yellow Pages," Border said. "They also tend to claim in their advertisements that the centers provide 'all options' in terms of services available."

There are an estimated 4,000 CPCs in the United States, according to Border, and the ultimate goal of CPCs is to persuade women to choose motherhood or adoption, while dissuading women from receiving abortion referrals or services.

Nearly all of these centers are operated by churches or religious organizations. They refer to themselves as a "ministry to save women's souls," according to fwhc.org.

Some women have claimed they had to wait up to an hour for the results of a pregnancy test and were forced to watch anti-abortion videos while they wait surrounded by anti-abortion propaganda, according to fwhc.org.

Women also reported being harassed, intimidated and given blatantly false information, or being forced to pray with the crisis pregnancy center's staff, according to



CPCs mask themselves as an abortion clinic (Courtesy of abc.com).

fwhc.org.

They complain that their confidential information was used against them.

In some cases, they were followed home and mail and phone calls intruded into their homes.

False claims such as abortion causes cancer and infertility, while condoms do not prevent against HIV and STDs are some of the examples of tactics the CPCs use to dissuade women, according to fwhc.org.

Despite this reported information, CareNet, one of the main organizations that oversees the CPCs, claims that they use compassion with women everyday to help save unborn lives.

According to CareNet's website, their network of more than 1,100 pregnancy centers offer hope to women facing unplanned pregnancies by providing practical help and emotional support. The website says CareNet's centers "provide free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds,

abortion information, parenting classes, and material assistance are just some of the many services offered that empower women to choose life."

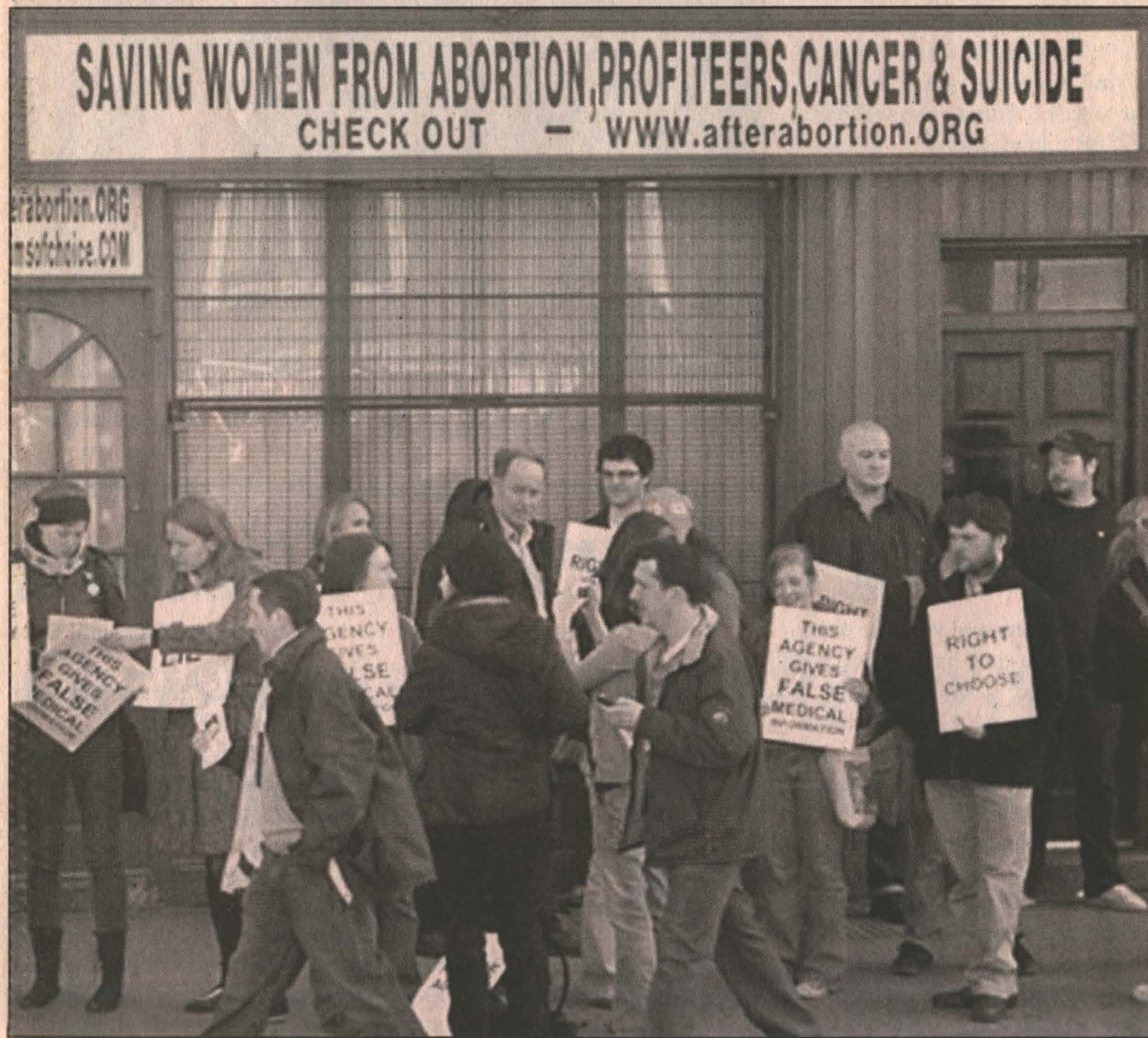
It is easy to find out if a campus health center is referring women to a CPC, according to Border, all you have to do is call them and ask them where they refer women who believe they may be pregnant.

Following this, you can research these referrals to determine if they are in fact CPCs.

Students can also look at optionline.org and search for a particular center in their area to see if it is CPC, however optionline.org is a website created and operated by two of the largest umbrella organizations overseeing local CPCs (CareNet and HeartbeatInternational), according to Border.

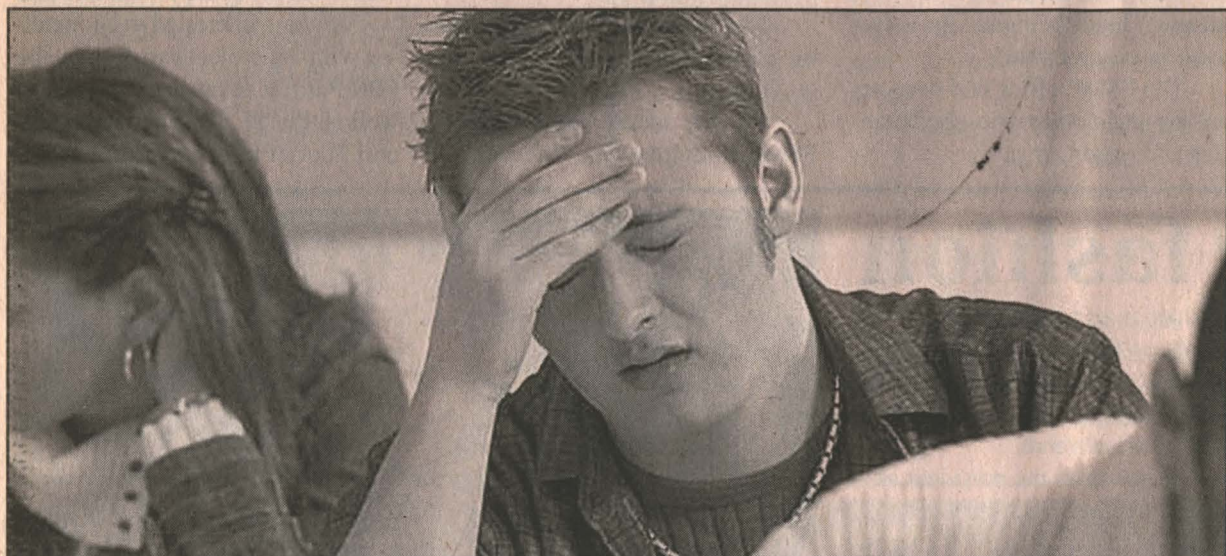
So keep that in mind when using the resource.

For more information on CPCs visit fwhc.org.



False abortion agencies have been the focal point of heated controversy lately (Courtesy of lifenew.com).

## Students feel the pressure



A little bit of stress might be good for students, but too much can be harmful (Courtesy of disonap.com).

Katelyn Duffy  
Staff Writer

Stress is normal. It can help keep you on track with schoolwork, but if it prevents you from focusing or maintaining a healthy lifestyle then it can be a problem, according to Michael Lewin, a CSUSB professor of psychology.

With finals coming up, it is important to acknowledge that stress is inevitable, but there are ways to minimize how much it negatively affects you.

"It is important to remember that moderate amounts of stress or arousal can help people perform better and take the steps necessary to take on challenges in their lives (e.g., exams, papers, etc), however if stress or arousal gets too high, performance suffers," Lewin said.

The negative consequences include decreased performance in social, occupational and educational settings, according to Lewin.

Physical symptoms of stress include headaches, back and neck pain, stomach aches, a decrease in your immune system's effectiveness, concentration problems, moodiness, irritability and depression.

Stressed bodies release a hormone called cortisol. Small in-

creases of cortisol have some positive effects, like a quick burst of energy and heightened memory functions, according to stress.about.com.

Cognitive distortion is an intense form of worrying that makes a situation seem drastically worse than it is, according to healthy-mind.com.

"Most forms of psychotherapy attempt to help clients learn the thinking-feeling connection," Lewin said. "People with anxiety problems tend to view their world in exaggerated, dangerous ways."

Stress can be overwhelming if you allow it to escalate. Students need to remember that there is power in positive thinking.

James Kaufman, a CSUSB professor of psychology, believes positive thinking can definitely help students.

However, Kaufman does warn students against becoming overconfident.

"If you are too sure of your success, then you may not study appropriately. On the whole, a good amount of positive thinking and confidence will help you succeed," Kaufman said.

No matter how positive students' thinking is, it must also be realistic.

"The power is in realistic

thinking. If one thinks realistically, they will be able to make better choices, e.g., when to start studying," Lewin said.

Another way to minimize stress is time management.

One way to manage time more efficiently is to make a "To Do" list and check off the items on the list as they get accomplished, according to Lewin.

Keep up with a daily planner. It is helpful when managing life's many activities. The more accountability students have, the less likely they are to forget things when stressed.

Both Lewin and Kaufman suggest that students learn to relax. Physical exercise, such as yoga or meditation and even just time to yourself to take deep breaths, can relieve stress.

Other stress busters include watching TV, going on Facebook and hanging out with friends.

To help fight procrastination, Lewin suggests students complete a task, then reward themselves with a fun activity and so on.

"Finally, seek counseling if you are not managing well on your own," Lewin said.

During finals week, remember to think positively and realistically and allow yourself to manage your time responsibly.

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## Britney Spears: Circus life



'Circus' is available in stores (Courtesy of Sony BMG/Jive Records).

Melanie Hunter  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Britney Spears wants us to think she's back on track and cleaned up her act.

MTV, the same network that allowed her to embarrass herself onstage at the 2007 VMAs, left her hanging when it blew up in their face, has orchestrated a scandal-

proof comeback for the pop star.

Her manager Larry Rudolph, her father who holds a strict conservatorship over Spears, and Jive Records are running her show.

'Circus' is Spears' sixth studio album that she can add to her 10 year career in the music industry. Essentially, Jive Records has created a machine they can be proud of.

For 10 years, Spears created

light-hearted pop in its purest form.

Her songs don't mean anything, but everyone knows at least one, and it seems as though making music is the only thing she can get right.

In the mist of the media storm surrounding her during her meltdown last year, she still managed to put out an album. 'Blackout' didn't have the booming records sales she's used to, but who does anymore?

The album was still a decent pop album, no ballads, and easily likeable.

'Circus', however, isn't a step up from 'Blackout'.

It's a step backwards for Spears.

'Circus' is saturated with songs that sound like B-sides to 2000's 'Oops...I Did It Again'.

Spears garnered commercial success when 'Womanizer', the album's lead single, catapulted her from No. 80 to No. 1 in a week on the Billboard Hot 100 Chart.

The title track will be the second single released to radio.

On 'Circus' she sings, "I'm a put on a show kind of girl/ don't like the back seat/ got to be first/ I'm like the ring leader/I call the shots/ I'm like a firecracker I make it hot/ when I put on a show."

No longer being able to call the shots in her circus-like life is what has seemingly put her in a better place.

"I feel like an old person now," Spears told Rolling Stone. "I do! I got to bed at like 9:30 every night, and I don't go out or anything, you know what I mean? I just feel like an old fart."

Spears channels those feelings on the boring ballad, "Out From

Under". She's never been a balladeer, and after 10 years in the business she should've realized that by now. Spears co-wrote the song and her thin vocals are less obvious because of the good production.

The strongest songs on the album are "Lace and Leather", a seductive song that's a potential hit single, and "If You Seek Amy" with its clever double meaning.

"Kill the Lights" is a sure drag queen favorite.

"Mmm Papi" takes the prize for the worst Spears song in history.

It doesn't mesh well at all with the rest of the album, and instead of the desired seductive sound producers were going for, it falls comically flat.

Spears is almost back to her old self.

Her musical ability never left, but in many promotional performances she's dead behind the eyes.

She appeared to just go through the motions on her Good Morning America appearance on Dec. 4.

MTV's documentary, 'Britney: For the Record' robotically told the story the network and her handlers wanted viewers to hear, and she continues to give rehearsed answers to every journalist crossing her promotional path.

This ensures that she appears as sane as possible.

Spears will embark on a world tour entitled 'The Circus: Starring Britney Spears', choreographed by the esteemed Wade Robson. Robson was responsible for her widely successful 'Dream Within a Dream' tour.

The national leg of the tour starts March 2009, and the circus comes to California in April.



'No Introduction' is available on Decaydance Records. Tyga is Gym Class Heroes' Travis McCoy's cousin (Courtesy of Red Music).

## Eye of the Tyga

Ja'Haan Howard-Young  
Staff Writer

Behind a skinny tattooed frame lies an artist with the heart of a tiger. In fact, he calls himself "Tyga."

Born and raised in Compton, he hopes to make a name for himself in the music game, step out of the shadows of unknown artists and into a bright spotlight to call his own.

Sadly his debut album "No Introduction" hasn't shown that he's ready for the bright solo lights.

The mediocre 13-track CD was hardly entertaining and did not possess much potential for a follow up.

The first single out of the gate, "Coconut Juice" featuring Travis

McCoy, was a surprising success, with its easy hook and catchy beat.

The video was in constant rotation on music networks.

The next single "AIM" didn't even make the charts.

The lyrics are easily forgettable and enough for listeners to bypass the song all together.

"Cartoonz," "Supersize Me," "Press 7" and "2 AM" were horrible and poorly produced. His rhyme scheme clashes with the beats he sings over.

Everything was wrong from bad lyrics and screeching vocals to poor misuse of a vocal decorder.

The only two songs that had any real potential were "Diamond Life" and a club hit "Woww," remixes.

"No Introduction" was released on Decaydance Records.

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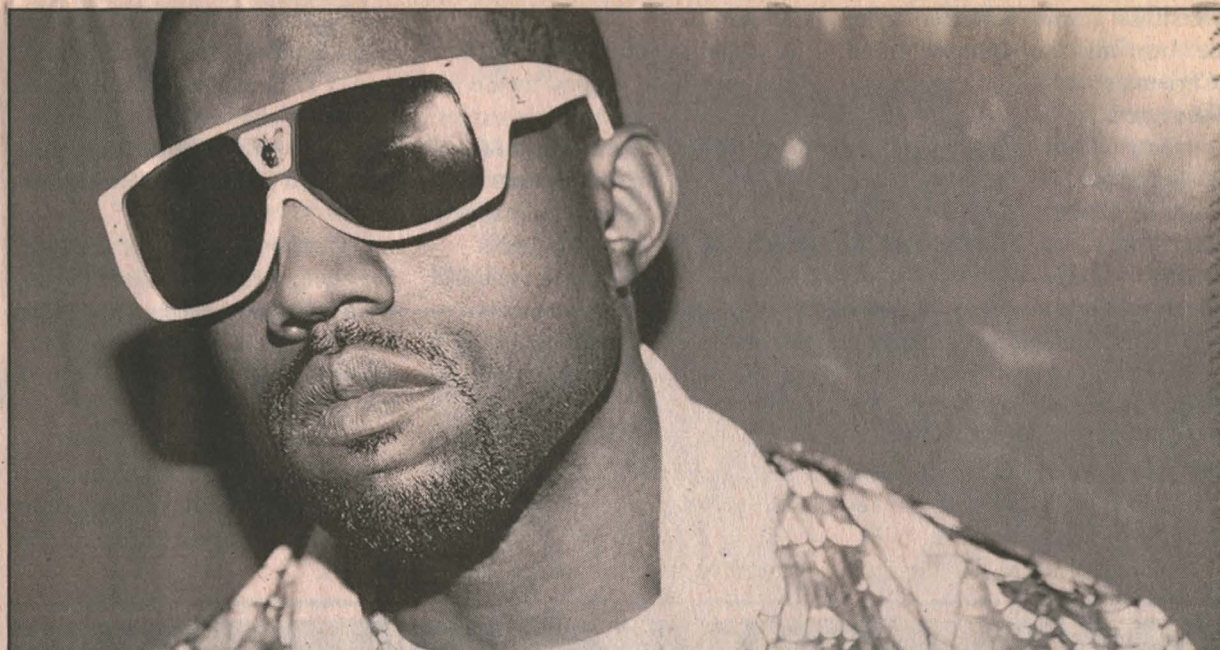
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Grammy award winner Kanye West's "808s and Heartbreak" is the rapper's most personal album yet. The album reached No.1 on the Billboard Album Charts (Courtesy of www.sweetcrack.com).

## The sounds of heartbreak

Khorry Lewis  
Staff Writer

Highly favored rapper and producer Kanye West has released his fourth album "808's and heartbreak" which is slightly different from the last three albums West previously released.

The album was originally scheduled for a December 16, 2008 release, but was pushed forward to increase sales during the holidays.

The album mainly consists of West's pain dealing with the death of his mother due to complications during a cosmetic tummy tuck surgery and breast reduction procedure.

Also following months later West broke off engagement with fiancée Alexis Phifer. The tone of the album has an 80's feel to it. Some of the songs are mellow as well.

The album title is very emotional for West as well being that West recorded the album in under a two week period in Hawaii with the help of the Roland TR-808 drum machine.

The 808 drum machine is what was used in the early 80's in many

pop songs, and West believes that the 808 drum is an important instrument that expresses emotion.

The 1st single off of the album was "Love Lockdown" which had been performed live and aired on the radio. West premiered the song on the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards and closed the show for the first time.

This song may hurt or help West in the sense that this is very different from his hit "Through the Wire".

The beat on this track is very simple with a bass line that thumbs back and forth and West singing in a very odd manner.

The second single on the album is "Heartless" which west uses to display a woman who has heartless feelings.

This track is more of a Kanye West style being that this is one of the only tracks on the album where West raps.

A song on the album that is very 80's but has a pop sound to it that only Kanye West can get away with is track that he has called

"Paranoid". In this song West talks about a female who is worried about the wrong things and calls her paranoid.

The track includes voice assistance from Consequence from rap posse 'A Tribe Called Quest' and Kid Cudi from up and coming rap group 'The Cool Kids'.

Another song on the album to listen to is 'See You in My Nightmare' featuring Lil Wayne.

On this song West is singing mainly and Lil Wayne also is singing.

The song talks about a girl that is in a good relationship and when it was time to break up it was not a fairy tale but yet a nightmare.

The melody on the beat is very strong and also has a good hook to it.

The album as a whole is very different but also a masterpiece in the sense that West took a step that many rap artists are afraid to take.

This is more than just a Kanye West album this is his thoughts, feelings, and emotions all wrapped around '808's and Heartbreak'.

**West recorded the album in two weeks in Hawaii.**





Pfau Librarian Barbara Quarton recounted Christmas stories that embrace a similar time much like this 19th century childrens Christmas periodical (Courtesy of <http://www.flickr.com>).

## Christmas spirit rediscovered in 19th-century holiday tales

Iyannia Alay  
Staff Writer

Christmas tales from days past have been rediscovered at CSUSB.

CSUSB Pfau librarian Barbara Quarton gave a reading, on Dec. 4, from her new published book of Christmas stories collected from the turn of the century titled "Christmas Rediscovered."

Quarton first developed her interest in Christmas stories by reading the "Century Magazine," where she found a collection of memoirs, essays, poems and short stories that reflected the period of time between 1881-1930. It illustrated changes in society such as immigration, expansion and development of industrial life.

In her journey to find the right

collection of stories, Quarton based her research on three criteria.

First, Quarton had to like the story. The story then had to be religiously neutral in order to appeal to all audiences. Finally the story had to reflect the changes within the 19th century.

"I was mesmerized... thrilled," said Quarton as she talked about the stories.

In her search, Quarton wanted

a good theme for Christmas stories, and she wanted to share something that could appeal to all people.

Quarton said that the stories were

fictional, yet realistic and "1890's stories [are] so innocent... beautiful."

Throughout her book, Quarton emphasized how she feels Christmas has changed dramatically.

She explains how Christmas has turned materialistic and com-

mercialized.

There are some students at CSUSB who would agree with Quarton.

CSUSB student Angelica Vera said, "Christmas no longer has that warm feeling, like it used to be back in the days... it's all about shopping and giving gifts."

These stories offer a different perspective of what Christmas should be and what it used to be.

"I think it's a very interesting collection and takes a different approach towards Christmas inspiration," said CSUSB student Thomas Green.

Quarton autographed copies of her book, which cost \$16.19. They were sold out by the end of lecture.

"I hope in the end you're inspired to see Christmas in a new way," Quarton said.

"Christmas Rediscovered" offers a new insight of Christmas stories that stay away from the new modernized type of Christmas traditions.

## Holiday season celebrated in diverse traditions by cultures

Yaneth Hoil  
Staff Writer

All Christmas and New Year celebrations are different and unique, which makes the holiday festivities one of the most anticipated times of the year.

Typically Americans celebrate Christmas by giving presents to family members and friends, and dinner normally consists of roast, turkey, goose or ham served with cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie.

CSUSB nursing student Allison Koch said, "We usually just open presents on Christmas and go visit my grandma's house...she usually gives us stockings filled with candy and gift cards."

Mexican Christmas traditions combine customs and religion.

CSUSB communications student Consuelo Sánchez said, "My family usually has 'posadas', which are related to my family's religion."

"Posadas" are a popular Mexican tradition that involves the participation of entire families and neighborhoods.

The Posadas serve to recreate Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The tradition begins on Dec. 16 and continues through Dec. 24.

Each of the participating families takes turns in hosting or serving as the innkeepers of the "posada," and the children and adults of the other families represent the "peregrinos", or pilgrims.

The peregrinos ask for a place to pass the night and the innkeeper that allows them to stay has to host the feast that takes place at the end of the re-enactment.

After the peregrinos enter the house, a prayer is said and then a feast of some traditional foods of a posada such as "champurrado," which is like hot chocolate, and tamales typically follows.

Mexican New Year traditions are few and often involve family

dinners.

Common traditions include eating 12 grapes at midnight while making one wish per grape. Traditions also included wearing red underwear on New Year's Eve to bring good fortune in love, and taking out suitcases and walking around with them to encourage future travel.

American New Year customs, on the other hand, focuses on countdowns like the ball dropping at Times Square in New York City, which is broadcast throughout the U.S. It involves people who usually kiss, honk their car horns, and blow whistles at the arrival of the New Year.

Some New Year celebrations are not even celebrated on January 1.

The Chinese New Year, or "Yuan Tan", is celebrated between Jan. 21 and Feb. 20. Its celebrations, such as street parades featuring dancing dragons and lions, are meant to bring good luck, health and happiness for the next year. The Chinese clean their homes before starting a celebration in order to clear, bad luck.

## Guest lecturer discusses global impact of 'Roots' mini-series

Chris Alsina  
Staff Writer

Slavery has its roots in many places around the world and during the 1970's the television mini-series "Roots" had many people rooted in front of their television sets.

On Tues., Nov. 25 in the Santos Manuel Student Union Theater, Dr. Timothy Havens, a professor of communication studies and African American studies at the University of Iowa, presented "Selling Slavery Worldwide: On a Global Popularity of 'Roots' and Industry Perceptions of Race" to over 100 students and professors.

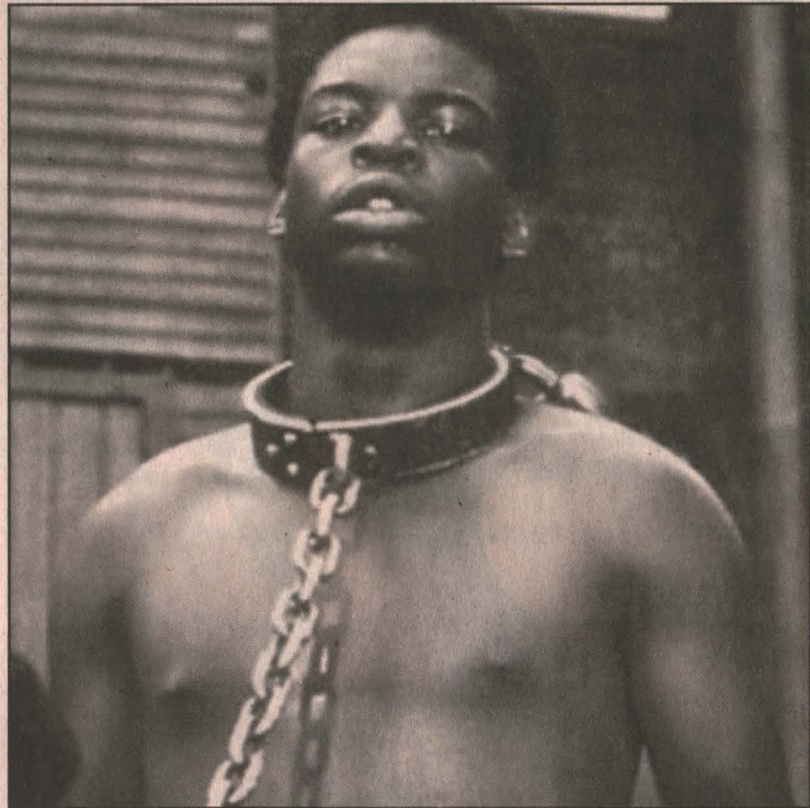
In his studies Dr. Havens has found it important for the international syndication aspect of television dramas. A lot of dramas need to be sold abroad to make money because networks do not pay to make the dramas.

Dr. Havens showed how the television show "Roots" was such a huge success, not only in the United States, but in many other countries as well.

Audiences internationally could relate to the hardships in which the characters of "Roots" went through because they believe they were put through similar situations.

A few countries where the show was popular included Brazil, Turkey, Germany, Nigeria, Italy and Hungary.

CSUSB Communication Studies Assistant Professor Ece Algan told the San Bernardino Sun "Roots" was one of the most-watched television series in the



The impact of "Roots" characters like the young Kunta Kinte (LeVar Burton) were discussed (Courtesy of <http://www.ew.com>).

world."

"In Turkey, when I was growing up, we used to watch it with tears in our eyes," Algan said.

"There would be nobody on the streets. Everybody would be tuned in," Algan said.

"Roots," an African-American dramatic mini-series, was one of the first of its kind to be such a huge success nationally and internationally.

More over, "Roots" had topped 50 percent of the share of television viewers for four out of the seven nights it was broadcasted.

Dr. Dany Doueiri, from the

Department of World Languages and Literatures at CSUSB, was in attendance and spoke on how he loved to watch the drama.

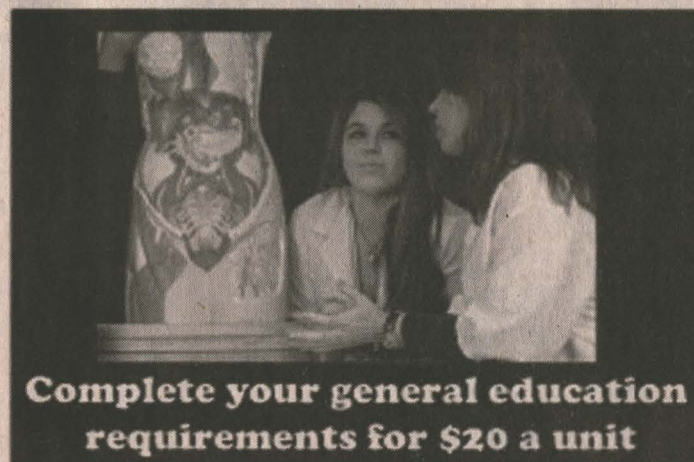
Doueiri mentioned how there was a time in the Middle-East when alarms and sirens sounded off for citizens to go into underground shelters but did not because they were watching "Roots."

Dr. Havens ended his presentation speaking about why the show was so popular even after being defied by industry executives as a program that would "flop" for not fitting the "white" audience of America.

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## Bring the AIDS fight back home

Elena Martinez  
Staff Writer

I don't think anyone who goes to school here can say they can't get their hands on a condom.

The Health Center, the Women's Resource Center, campus events: They're handed out like candy on Halloween.

I'd never reflected on this until December 1, which was World AIDS Day.

I know this because it was mentioned sporadically on the news. . . OK, I didn't really watch the news. I know about it because I saw the red ribbon logo on googly while I was surfing the net (for schoolwork, I swear).

I know lots of things happened in support of World AIDS day. For

example, here on campus, there were activities and services hosted by various school organizations in recognition of the global epidemic.

Still, I ended up feeling underwhelmed.

I guess I feel like AIDS has somehow become normalized in our culture, almost like we've forgotten what it really is.

Besides this, when we think about AIDS, we usually picture the millions suffering in Africa.

Oprah, Bono, Angelina Jolie and plenty of other celebrities have succeeded at exposing the human faces of the AIDS crisis overseas.

I think that's been great and very important.

However, I think it also means that somewhere in the process, many of us lost the face of AIDS at home.

In many areas of Africa and elsewhere in the world, people wear T-Shirts that state, "HIVE-positive," regardless of their status, simply to show support and decrease the shame factor of the disease. In Africa's version of Sesame Street, there is even an HIVE-positive Muppet.

Can you imagine the same things happening here? Talk about a scarlet letter!

While intellectually we understand the need to accept and support AIDS victims, the extreme stigma of AIDS lives on in the U.S.

For some reason, it seems easier to send support overseas to victims we don't have everyday contact with, than to confront the dangerous virus affecting our own friends and neighbors.

Maybe this is because, deep down inside, we prefer to keep the idea of AIDS at arm's length.

The problem with this is that AIDS isn't something that stays at arm's length.

While we may try to fit American AIDS cases into neat little boxes (drug users, homosexual men, etc.), this isn't the reality of the disease today at all.

"The (American) social norms are that only skid row drug users or people in Africa have AIDS. The reality is that there are over one million people in this country that are carriers of HIVE," Carlos Carrio, the Wellness Coordinator for the Health Center told me.

By the way the U.S. spends money treating AIDS, but you'd never know it.

The U.S. has spent billions of dollars fighting AIDS in Africa. However, according to AVERT's (an international AIDS charity) website, in the U.S., "by June 2004 there were 1,629 people waiting for AIDS drugs in 11 states. These waiting lists were not fully cleared until September 2007."



Society needs to come together to fight AIDS and help its victims in America (Courtesy of topnews.com).

So, it's no wonder that when we are led by our government and idols to believe that the tragedy of AIDS doesn't affect us, that we believe them.

Our desire to help others, however, is a dangerous game of denial.

Carrio said that since the 1980s, after so much progress with AIDS research, Americans have "a false sense of security (but), it's still a death sentence."

It's a trait of our American ego-

tism, maybe, to think that we are above the pain and suffering that we see overseas but refuse to recognize in those all around us.

Cheryl Stebbings, program assistant at the Women's Resource Center, told me how AIDS is affecting American women at huge rates right now. "That's why we offer condoms here. . . anything to reduce the risk," she said.

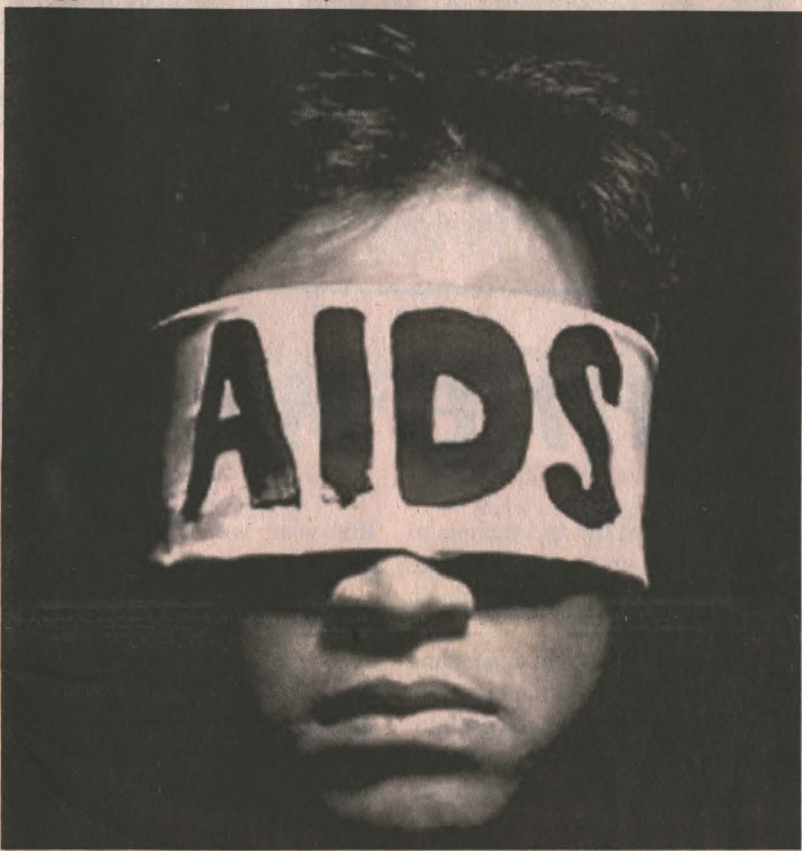
Stebbing said, "Sometimes I see younger women sit down, see

the condoms, and push them away, like 'eww!' It's the yuck factor.

It's like, 'you kind of need those, they can save your life.'

Indeed, they can, and so can the realization that AIDS isn't something that only exists in far-away lands.

Maybe next time you pledge a dollar to an African AIDS charity, you can lay aside an extra one for the AIDS victims right here at home.



We can no longer turn a blind eye to those who suffer from AIDS. They need our help (Courtesy of ehealth.ph.com).

## Wide web might get tangled in censorship

DeVoyaji Burton  
Staff Writer

The face of what we call the Internet may change forever.

The issue is "net neutrality."

The issue is whether improvement to the Internet's network holds a higher priority over the freedom of speech it currently enjoys. A faster Internet may come at the cost of the freedom to browse, upload, and download whatever you want.

We are presently allowed to go to any website we choose without enforced censorship by our Internet Service Providers (ISP).

I am not including parental controls, which the consumer uses to filter websites. Consumers control parental controls, but with the lack of net neutrality that power would be given to the ISP.

Net neutrality gives an even playing field to all who use the web. Big corporations and individuals alike are given the same rights.

That means that Yahoo and Grandma can both start their own web based businesses with no favoritism shown to either side by the Internet service provider.

Websites such as YouTube have capitalized on net neutrality. YouTube is a website that allows people from around the world to upload their own personal videos and share them with the world.

"All data is treated equally and

the user makes the decisions as to which data they download what websites they visit and what they watch and read online," Craig Aaron, communications director for the Free Press said during an interview on PBS.

Without network neutrality millions of people who upload and share information could be highly censored.

Companies such as AT&T, Verizon, Comcast and Time Warner are against network neutrality according to SaveTheInternet.com.

These companies wish to not only provide the information lines, but also decide what information is able to travel through those lines.

"What the cable and telephone companies are proposing is essentially erecting a toll booth right in the middle to direct traffic create an express lane for the products and services they own and leave everyone else on a winding dirt road," Aaron said.

The argument against net neutrality is based on the need for a new improved system to support the amount of users on the Internet.

The Internet basically flows one single pipeline. The opponents of net neutrality propose that new lines are to be opened, which would allow certain websites a higher amount of privilege.

They argue that proponents of net neutrality want all traffic to clog a single archaic pipeline.

"The problem is the Internet we built to date is getting a little creaky, and without significant new investment we're not going to be able to manage the traffic. So the question is as we build this Internet in the future who's going to pay for it," Mike McCurry, former press secretary for Bill Clinton said.

With the idea of network neutrality the people are in charge of what information travels the Internet; even if this includes material that may be considered libelous.

As of now the ISPs are not held responsible for slanderous material that a website may forward.

I believe net neutrality is the reason for this. Instead of the responsibility resting on the shoulders of companies such as Verizon and AT&T.

Blame is shifted to others.

The downside to net neutrality is that everyone has equal rights to the Internet.

People who want to publish lies, hatred or pornography have equal claims to the resources of the Internet.

As of now the responsibility lays on the website owners about what information is given through the Internet. Getting rid of net neutrality would easily make the service providers more culpable since they will be deciding which sites get a higher priority.

Lack of Internet neutrality would place more responsibility on



Internet censorship might not only happen in China (Courtesy of Caglecartoons.com).

the Internet service providers. This could possibly make them run the Internet like a newspaper, that must ensure who it lets advertise and what can be published.

Both sides of the argument have valid points. Proponents of the Internet are right in the point that we should still have the right to upload and download whatever we want to and from the Internet, as long as it doesn't breach laws such as copyright infringement.

However, opponents are right about needing a new system once the Internet becomes clogged with information, which could truly be a possibility in the foreseeable future.

Yet, if making this new network shifts the power of what is on the Internet from the everyday consumer I strongly oppose their view.

So the question that begs to be asked is, "Does a better network warrant censorship of the freedom of speech the current Internet pro-

vides us?" I say no.

If we, as a people, are not allowed the freedom to post and download what we choose to, what is the use of the Internet?

If I want to learn information about certain subjects, yet I am unable to get a page to load because privileged sites have top priority, I'd be upset.

There are ups and downs to both positions, but the peoples' voices must not be silenced.



# Cherniss turns 'Yotes into powerhouse team

Chris Baker  
Staff Writer

In 18 seasons as head coach of the women's volleyball team, Kim Cherniss has created a national powerhouse.

With nearly 400 victories, three regional championships and six CCAA titles in the past eight seasons, Cherniss' ability as a coach is easily recognizable.

Before she embarked on her successful coaching career, she was a tremendous player.

Cherniss earned all-American honors twice at UC Riverside and was a member of the Highlanders' 1982 national championship squad.

After her college days, Cherniss played professionally.

She played for the San Bernardino Jazz for two years.

However, her professional calling would not be spent solely as a

volleyball player.

She became the head coach of a professional team in France after she graduated as well.

Cherniss was elected to UC Riverside's sports hall of fame and began her run as the Coyotes' head coach in 1991.

The position was hardly a dream job at the time.

The program struggled to reach .500, played in a ratty gym and Cherniss' coaching stint was only part-time.

The tide turned in 1996 when the Coussoulis Arena was built and Cherniss was promoted to a full-time position.

"In 1996, when she went full time, the program turned around," CSUSB sports information director Mike Murphy said.

Cherniss began to string together winning seasons on her way to building a national power.

Her recipe for national success

was comprised mostly of local flavors.

"[She's] winning with local kids based in the Inland Empire," Murphy said. "Most of the key players went to high school in the San Bernardino and Riverside area."

"I believe strongly in recruiting the very best athletes from my area," Cherniss said in an interview with momentummedia.com in 2004. "I want the very best athletes I can find, and once we have them, we'll fit them into positions we need."

However, the local crop of talent isn't exactly chopped liver.

Cherniss has coached multiple all-Americans.

Included in that group are current players junior setter Sara Hoffman and two-time all-American Jessica Granados.

Her players helped launch CSUSB into a perennial regional

and national threat.

The Coyotes have reached the Elite Eight three times in the last eight seasons.

Cherniss' most recent accolade came when she was named the 2008 NCAA Division II West Region Coach of the Year. She has received the prestigious award three times.

Winning the CCAA and sweeping through the regional tournament this year earned her the award.

While Cherniss' program has been elevated to a national power, her impact isn't constricted to volleyball.

"Kim has certainly helped the athletic department raise its regional and national reputation," Murphy said. "As the saying goes, a rising tide raises all ships."

This is normal for Cherniss as she has been raising championships her entire career.



Women's volleyball coach Kim Cherniss has coached the team for 18 seasons and has led them to three regional championships and six CCAA titles (Courtesy of Robert Whitehead).



Sara Rice is the fourth ranked hitter in the nation (Danniella Erickson/Chronicle).

## Road not taken

Danniella Erickson  
Staff Writer

The fourth ranked volleyball hitter in the nation was supposed to become a golfer. Senior middle blocker Sara Rice holds a .412 hitting percentage, yet golf clubs and tees were predicted to be in her future.

Rice said her father is a golf enthusiast and expected her to be to a golfer in high school. When most of her friends tried out for the volleyball team and they pushed her to try out as well.

Rice became Yucaipa High School's top player her junior and senior year and earned all-Citrus Belt League honors.

More recently, she was named the Molten/CCAA player of the week on Nov. 10 and received honorable mention for the NCAA this year.

The reality that this is Rice's last year has not sunk in for her yet.

"It hasn't really hit me. It's my last year and I thought there was going to be a point where I realized it," Rice said.

Her only option to continue her volleyball career would be to play overseas. It's a disheartening fact, but women's volleyball isn't very popular in America, she said.

"Coach Kim always talks to players about going overseas. That's really the only option after college," Rice said.

Rice doesn't think she'll play

professionally.

She said her father owns a construction business and she's always helped him with management, so she might work for him.

Her parents are her biggest supporters and they travel with her when she goes out of state.

Rice's mother, however, is the one she calls upon the most.

"She is the mother figure. If I have any questions, I go to her. [She knows] everything about the house and what to do," Rice said.

Rice stands six feet tall, which works to her advantage as a volleyball player.

"Growing up you always wish you looked different. Now, I love it. I just wish I could wear heels, but I can't," Rice said.

Rice's height attracted attention during the interview.

"I was just wondering if you won the award for the longest legs on campus," a man sitting at a table close to the interview said.

"Not this year. Wasn't me," Rice giggled.

This is the Coyotes' second season with the most losses.

"I think going to regionals and having these losses underneath us helped because we never talked about losing before. It was all winning. I think it helped us think about how to fix it," Rice said.

Luckily for the Coyotes, Rice decided to be a volleyball player instead of a golfer. She's a great example of why it pays to be the creator of your own destiny.

## Early away game woes

Gabriel Alvizo  
Staff Writer

Coyotes and traveling do not mix well. At least that's been the case for the men's and women's basketball teams so far.

It is common knowledge for anyone who is associated with sports that traveling and playing road games is tough to do.

No one likes uncomfortable bus and plane rides. Nor do they like rowdy fans from other schools that do everything they can to be a distraction.

But every team must leave the comfort of their home court during the season.

On the surface, some of the tangible things that are effected by traveling are scheduling and organization.

But things that cannot be measured are character, perseverance

and the team's ability to deal with adversity and change.

Men's basketball coach Jeff Oliver and women's basketball coach Kevin Becker say traveling is good because it helps build the team's character. They also acknowledge that it's tough.

Oliver and his team are coming off of two road losses in which they had to travel out of state.

"Traveling throws scheduling all out of whack," Oliver said. "There are different shoot around times, the opposing crowd, but you get a chance to see what your team's made out of when dealing with adversity. We have a lot of new faces here that are trying to learn how to work, prepare and play on the road."

A way that Oliver attempts to prepare his team for the challenge of road games is by shining light on the situation at hand.

"I try to make them understand the environment and the situation they are getting themselves into.

Some calls are not going to go your way. We play a tough pre-season schedule so that we get ready for CCAA play," Oliver said.

Becker and the women's basketball team had a couple of early away losses as well. Becker believes that the traveling has it pros and cons.

"Traveling is different. For one, it gets you out of your comfort zone and the way a team reacts is a learning process. You find out what a team's made of. As for our team

this year, we haven't found out yet," Becker said.

He went on to describe how adjustments are key in the bigger scheme of things.

"Players are so used to their lives here on campus. When their routine gets messed up and they have to adjust, it's different for them. We have a new team, new kids, so it's all about adjusting right now," Becker said.

Oliver and Becker agree that one of the toughest campuses to play at in the CCAA is Humboldt State.

"Humboldt has a tremendous atmosphere. I believe their season tickets are sold out," Oliver said. "It's definitely the toughest place to travel to and play in the CCAA conference."

With every challenge, the Coyotes have a chance to be stronger. It will be interesting to see how they do as the season progresses.

*"Oliver and his team are coming off two road losses ..."*

## Lights out for Chargers

Jon Ross Alexander  
Staff Writer

The San Diego Chargers are running out of power as they head into the final stretch of the season.

This was supposed to be their season. This was supposed to be their time.

Many predicted that they would finish the regular season no worse than 15-1 and become Super Bowl champions.

Those hopes, dreams and expectations came crashing down. The Chargers you see today aren't the Chargers of the last two seasons.

"I think they have an unorganized pool of unlimited potential," CSUSB student Antonio Banks said. "And it's even questionable to see how talented they really are."

One year removed from an 11-5 finish and boasting a defense that was among the greatest in the league, the Chargers currently stand at 4-8. Their record is a disgrace to many fans.

The once high powered of-

fense, led by quarterback Philip Rivers and running back LaDainian Tomlinson, has struggled.

As of Nov. 30, they averaged 267.2 yards per game. Which ranked them at 29 out of 32 teams.

The defense has struggled just as much as the offense. This is no surprise since Shawne "Lights Out" Merriman has been sidelined for the season with a bad knee.

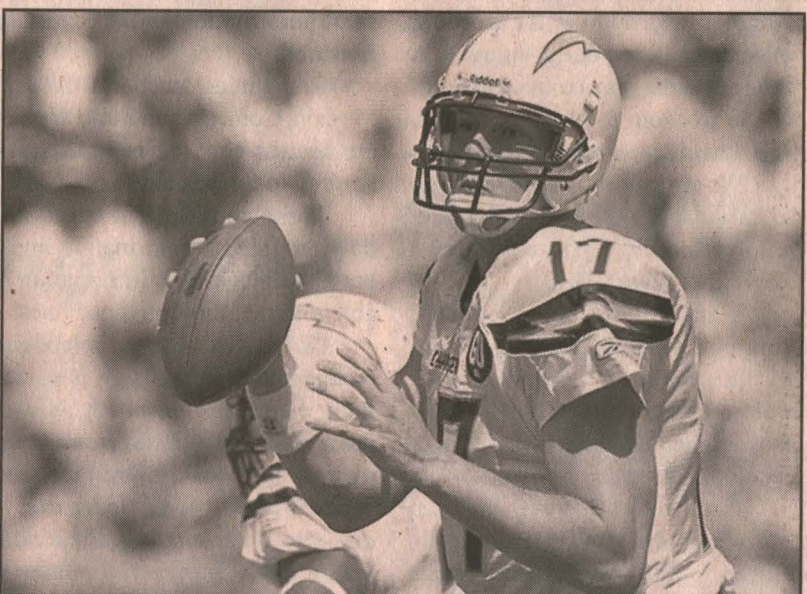
The Chargers are seemingly out of touch with each other.

"The chemistry just isn't there this season," CSUSB student Rueben Malvin said. "There is too much talent for the team to be in the position that they are in right now."

Tomlinson has seen the end zone a total of seven times this year. Seven touchdowns is a huge drop-off compared to his 19 total touchdowns in 2007.

"L.T. is a beast," Malvin said. "It just seems like the beast has been tamed this year."

Others feel the blame doesn't lie on just the players. Coaches and people in the front office are just as accountable for San Diego's abysmal season as well.



San Diego Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers and his team are currently below .500 (Courtesy of chargers.com).

"I think if the organization wasn't so bullheaded they would've been deep in the playoffs this season," Banks said. "But since they were so unnerved about Marty (Schottenheimer) and his so called first round jinx, they axed him along with their Super Bowl dreams."

A first round exit in the play-

offs in 2006 cost Marty Schottenheimer his job.

Norv Turner, a coach with little winning experience, was hired soon after.

Hopefully something can be done to stop the bleeding as we speak. Relying on the Denver Broncos to lose every week isn't what the Chargers should be counting on.